

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

YKL-40 levels in serum and plasma samples provide as an indicator of both the presence of early stage ovarian cancer and of its aggressiveness. Thus testing for YKL-40 levels in patients at risk but not yet displaying symptoms associated with ovarian cancer, or in patients newly diagnosed with early stage ovarian cancer (Stage I or II) enhance both the detection of early stage ovarian cancer and selection of treatment protocols used for early stage ovarian cancer patients.